Restructuring of Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd.

*234 DR. B.B. DUTTA: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal to restructure Pawan Hans Helicopters Ltd.;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Pawan Hans has approached Government for writing off loans amounting to Rs. 130.9 crores and an interest liability of Rs. 220 crores arising out of the Westland deal;

(d) if so, the details thereof alongwith Government's reaction thereto;

(e) whether Government propose to disinvest shares of Pawan Hans; and

(f) is so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF CIVIL AVIATION: (SHRI ANANTH KUMAR): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The restructuring of the Pawan Hans Helicopters Limited (PHHL) has been proposed in the following manner:

(i) Organisational Restructuring, i.e. restructuring on basis of profit centres; expansion and diversification into new areas; aggressive marketing strategy and other modes;

(ii) Manpower Rationalisation in the form of new structures being worked out on the basis of assessment of optimal staffing so as to lower the ratio of employees per helicopter; and

(iii) Financial Restructuring which will include the settlement of Westland helicopters dues, restrsucturing of capital base and better management of investment portfolio.

(c) and (d) PHHL has approached the Government for writing off dues in respect of Westland helicopters viz. principal amount of Rs. 130.91 crores and accumulated liability towards interest and others charges amounting to Rs. 265.23 crores upto 31.03.1998. The matter is under consideration.

(e) and (f) Yes, Sir. In pursuance of the Government policy to disinvest Government equity in Public Sector Undertakings, a proposal is under consideration to disinvest 40% of Government stake in PHHL to JV partner/financial investors.

Creation of Power Development Fund

*235 SHRI V.P. DURAISAMY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to create a Power Development Fund; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER: (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) and (b) A proposal for enactment of a legislation enabling establishment of Electricity Development Fund by levy of cess on the electricity generation is under examination. The proceeds realised from the imposition of the cess will be deposited in the Consolidated fund of India and, thereafter, shared between the Central and State Governments.

The amount available in the State Electricity Development Fund will be utilised for promoting hydro power development including small hydel power projects and for improvement in the transmission/distribution network including the sub-transmission/ distribution system.

The amount available in the Central Electricity Development Fund will be utilised for the following purposes:

(i) Financing the expenditure on survey and investigation and preparation of DPRs in respect of Hydro Projects which will provide benefit to more than one State.

(ii) Investment in pre-construction activities including expenditure on land acquisition. These activities

will include construction of access roads and bridges.

(iii) Development of small and mini hydro projects.

(iv) Financing the expenditure on renovation and modernisation of power plants.

(v) Financing the expenditure on transmission lines/associated sub-stations required for evacuating power from hydel stations to the load centres.

Trade Promotion drive by Mormugao Port Trust

*236. SHRI SURESH KALMADI: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Mormugao Port Trust has embarked on a major trade promotion drive; and

(b) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF LAW, JUSTICE AND COMPANY AFFAIRS AND THE MINISTER OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI M. THAMBI DURAI): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Port Trust had organised a Trade Promotion Seminar in Bangalore on 20th November, 1998 with the co-operation and active support of the Federation of Karnataka Chamber of Commerce & Industries and Greater Mysore Chamber of Industries. The main thrust of the Trade Promotion drive was to bring home in the trade the additonal facilities provided in Mormugao Port to attract Import/Export trade to transform itself from a mono-commodity port to a multi-commodity port.

The Port Trust has been successful in creating a greater sense of awareness among the trade circles in Bangalore that with the commissioning of the Konkan Railway and the conversion of the meter-gauge railway to broad-gauge through South Central Railway, Mormugao Port Trust would now be able to handle export/import cargoes to/from any part of the India through the trunk railway system.

Power Generation in Assam

*237. SHRI PRAKANTA WARISA: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) the present annual installed power generation capacity in Assam and the actual power generation in the State with details for the last five years, year-wise;

(b) the details of the demand of power in the State and how far it is met; and

(c) whether Government propose to meet the acute shortage of power in the State, if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI P.R. KUMARAMANGALAM): (a) The present annual installed power generation capacity in Assam is 1142 MW. The actual power generation in the State in million units during the last five years is given below:—

Year	Generation (MU)
1993-94	1348
1994-95	1533
1995-96	1828
1996-97	2061
1997-98	1931
1998-99 (April—Nov. 1998)	1618

(b) During the current year (April—Nov. 1998) the power supply position in Assam has been more or less comfortable. The details are as follows:—

	Energy (in MU Net)
Requirement	1967
Availability	1904.5
Shortage	62.5
Percentage Shortage	3.2